

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PRETOR 02836 300537Z

20

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 DODE-00 ACDA-05 L-03 MC-02 /068 W

----- 125031

R 291435Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2364

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRETORIA 2836

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, OCLR, UK, SF

SUBJ: PROPOSED SAFAIR USE OF ASCENSION FACILITIES

REF: STATE 177039

1. SAFAIR HAS BEEN INTERESTED FOR SOME TIME IN USE OF ASCENSION BUT ALWAYS IN CONTEXT OF FLIGHTS TO U.S. FOR ENGINE REPAIR, ETC. FOR ITS LOCKHEED L-100'S. WE HAD NOT HEARD OF ITS DESIRE TO USE THESE FACILITIES FOR ITS FLIGHTS TO BORDEAUX, WHICH AS DEPT ALSO ASSUMES, IS LIKELY TO INCLUDE PARTIALLY ASSEMBLED MIRAGES. WE THINK THAT CHANGE IN FLIGHT PLANS MAY REFLECT RELUCTANCE FOR POLITICAL REASONS TO USE SAL ISLAND AFTER CAPE VERDIAN INDEPENDENCE. LIKEWISE LIBREVILLE WOULD BE RULED OUT FOR SIMILAR REASONS.

2. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS JULY 25 WITH SAA CHIEF EXECUTIVE PIENAAR ON AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT (PRETORIA 2780) HE MENTIONED SAA INTEREST IN TECHNICAL STOPS AT ASCENSION FOR THEIR NEW YORK FLIGHTS IF SAL ISLAND FACILITIES LOST. WE POINTED OUT THAT GROUND FACILITIES WERE STRICTLY MILITARY WITH NOTHING FOR CIVIL AIR PASSENGERS. WE ALSO NOTED PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS GOVERNING USE OF FACILITIES THERE UNDER US-UK AGREEMENT AMONG LINES IN REFTEL. PIENAAR DID NOT SEE ANY IMMEDIATE THREAT TO SAL ISLAND BECAUSE OF SAA'S MAJOR ROLE AS FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNER FOR CAPE VERDES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PRETOR 02836 300537Z

3. ONE POINT DEPT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER HOWEVER IS PROPOSED PAN AM

ROUTE TO JOHANNESBURG THROUGH RIO DE JANEIRO, FINAL U.S.
CERTIFICATION FOR WHICH IS STILL PENDING. BECAUSE OF HIGH ALTITUDE
AT JOHANNESBURG, PAN AM WOULD HAVE TO MAKE TECHNICAL STOP AT
CAPETOWN AND WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE ALSO TO EMBARK AND LAND NON-
CABOTAGE PASSENGERS THERE. UNDER CURRENT US-SAG BILATERAL WE DO
NOT HAVE RIGHTS AT CAPETOWN ALTHOUGH IN JUNE 28, 1968 EXCHANGE OF
NOTES, SAG AGREED TO CONSIDER AT A LATER STAGE GRANT OF SUCH RIGHTS.
THESE CAPETOWN RIGHTS MIGHT BE A POSSIBLE QUID PRO QUO OF SAA
USE OF USAF FACILITIES AT ASCENSION, ASSUMING UK CONCURRENCE. THERE-
FORE WE STRONGLY URGE THAT TURNING DOWN OF THE SAFAIR REQUEST FOR THREE
TECHNICAL STOPS AT ASCENSION BE ON THE LIMITED GROUNDS OF ARMS EMBARGO

CONSIDERATION AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 4C OF THE REFTEL. A NEGATIVE ON
BROADER GROUNDS SUCH AS ARTICLE 15 OF THE 1944 CHICAGO CONVENTION
COULD CREATE RESTRICTIVE PRECEDENT FOR OURSELVES SHOULD WE
DESIRE LATER TO ENTER INTO CAPETOWN RIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS.
BOWDLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, LANDING RIGHTS, CIVIL AVIATION, FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AVIATION AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PRETOR02836
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750262-0429
From: PRETORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750712/aaaaakwb.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 177039
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED SAFAIR USE OF ASCENSION FACILITIES
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, OCLR, UK, SF, US, SAFAIR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006